

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04322 211822Z
ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS USCTB

PASS TO DOE

E.O.11652:XGDS-3
TAGS: PARM US UK UR
SUBJECT: CTB NEGOTIATIONS: REPORT OF PLENARY MEETING,
MARCH 21, 1978

CTB MESSAGE NO.183

1. SUMMARY: FINAL PLENARY SESSION OF ROUND WAS HELD ON MARCH 21. EDMONDS (UK) HOPED SOVIETS WOULD BE PREPARED WITH NEW IDEAS AFTER BREAK AND PROMISED UK WOULD RETURN WITH SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE SEPARATE AGREEMENT. MOROKHOV (USSR) FELT A CLEARER INSIGHT INTO POSITIONS HAD BEEN OBTAINED DURING ROUND AND HOPED DELEGATIONS COULD RETURN WITH CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS FOR NEGOTIATING THE TREATY. WARNKE (US) REVIEWED DIFFERENCES ON INTERNAL SEISMIC INSTALLATIONS (ISIS) AND ON-SITE INSPECTION (OSI) AND REITERATED US REQUIREMENTS FOR STABLE AND DURABLE TREATY. NEXT PLENARY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 19. END SUMMARY.

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SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04322 211822Z

2. EDMONDS READ STATEMENT (SEPTTEL) EXPRESSING HOPE THAT DELEGATIONS COULD RETURN AFTER RECESS WITH IDEAS TO RESOLVE REMAINING PROBLEMS, CITING MAIN ISSUES AS DURATION, PNES, AND VERIFICATION. UK AIMED TO RETURN WITH CLEAR PROPOSAL FOR UK PARTICIPATION IN THE SEPARATE AGREEMENT. HE SAID HE FELT DELS COULD FIND ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE ON PNES PROVIDING DURATION QUESTION WAS ALSO

SETTLED. EXPRESSING REGRET ABOUT LACK OF FORMAL INTRODUCTION OF NEW SOVIET IDEAS ON DURATION, HE SAID UK EXPECTED TO BE READY TO RESPOND IF SOV DEL COULD CLARIFY THEIR LATEST IDEAS ON DURATION EARLY IN THE NEXT ROUND.

3. MOROKHOV BEGAN BY COMPLAINING, APPARENTLY IN CONNECTION WITH EDMONDS REMARKS ON DURATION, THAT IT WAS IRRELEVANT TO REFER TO STATEMENTS THAT HAD NOT BEEN MADE OFFICIALLY IN PLENARY. HE THEN READ A BRIEF STATEMENT, FIRST QUOTING THE TRILATERAL PROGRESS REPORT TO THE CCD. SOME POINTS HAD BEEN AGREED IN PRINCIPLE AND DIFFERENCES HAD BEEN NARROWED SOMEWHAT. MOROKHOV THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE MAIN RESULT OF THE ROUND WAS THAT A CLEARER INSIGHT INTO POSITIONS HAD BEEN GAINED. HE SAID HE HAD EXPECTED MORE FROM THE ROUND, NOTING THAT PREPARATION OF THE TREATY TEXT HAD NOT YET REALLY BEGUN. CONCLUDING, MOROKHOV SAID HE EXPECTED DELS TO RETURN FOR NEXT ROUND WITH CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS ENABLING NEGOTIATION OF THE TREATY.

4. WARNKE (US) DELIVERED STATEMENT REVIEWING KEY ISSUES IN NEGOTIATIONS. HE WAS GRATEFUL FOR SOVIET ILLUSTRATIVE DRAFT LANGUAGE OF SEPARATE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT (SVA), BUT NOTED CRITICAL DIFFERENCES IN SEVERAL AREAS. IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO REACH EXPLICIT AGREEMENT IN THE SVA ON KEY VERIFICATION OBJECTIVES FOR ISIS, AMONG WHICH SHOULD BE SECRET

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 04322 211822Z

PROVISION FOR TRANSMISSION OF ALL SEISMIC DATA ON A ROUTINE BASIS. IF KEY TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS FOR ISIS WERE AGREED IN THE SVA, ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERIM PERIOD COULD BE EXPLORED. WARNKE FELT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE FOR ON-SITE INSPECTION (OSI) INITIATION PROVISIONS COULD BE FOUND THAT AVOIDED THE TERM "SEISMIC EVENT" AND DID NOT REQUIRE THE SUBMISSION OF ANY PARTICULAR TYPE OF EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST. HE ALSO REITERATED THE IMPORTANCE THE US ATTACHED TO THE AGREED UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING THE CONSEQUENCES OF ARBITRARINESS IN REQUESTING AND RESPONDING TO OSI REQUESTS. IN ADDITION, THE SOVIET DRAFT OF THE SVA DID NOT ADEQUATELY PROVIDE FOR THE RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS OF INSPECTING PERSONNEL, WHICH THE SOVIETS HAD PREVIOUSLY AGREED SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN ADVANCE. WARNKE CONCLUDED HIS STATEMENT BY RESTATING US REQUIREMENTS FOR A STABLE AND DURABLE TREATY THAT COULD CONTINUE WITHOUT THE ADHERENCE OF ALL NUCLEAR POWERS AND A MORATORIUM ON ONE THAT REMAINED IN FORCE AS LONG AS THE WEAPONS TEST BAN. HE ADDED EXTEMPORANEOUSLY THAT AS NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED, WHAT SEEMED TO BE DIFFERENCES IN PRINCIPLE MIGHT ONLY BE DIFFERENCES IN EMPHASIS OR PRESENTATION. WHILE THE ACTUAL WORK OF FORMULATING TREATY PROVISIONS HAD HARDLY BEGUN,

A FIRM BASE OF BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF POSITIONS HAD BEEN
CREATED WHICH, WARNKE HOPED, WOULD ALLOW ACTUAL ELABORA-
TION OF TEXT TO GO QUICKLY.

5. AT POST PLENARY HEADS OF DELEGATION MEETING, EDMONDS
RAISED QUESTION OF UK PARTICIPATION IN THE SEPARATE
VERIFICATION AGREEMENT. SUBSTANCE OF DISCUSSION REPORTED
SEPTEL.

6. NEXT PLENARY WAS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 19 AT 10:30 A.M.
WARNKE

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NNN

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